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Counsel for Highland Capital Management, L.P.

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

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In re:	§ §	Chapter 11
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P., 1	§ §	Case No. 19-34054-sgj11
Debtor.	§ §	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.,	§	
Plaintiff, vs.	8 8 8	Adversary Proceeding No.
	§	
HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	§	
SERVICES, INC,	§	
<i>.</i>	§	
Defendant.	Ü	
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¹ The Debtor's last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are (6725). The headquarters and service address for the above-captioned Debtor is 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75201.



DOCS_NY:42003.3 36027/002

COMPLAINT FOR (I) BREACH OF CONTRACT AND (II) TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE DEBTOR'S ESTATE

Plaintiff, Highland Capital Management, L.P., the above-captioned debtor and debtor-in-possession (the "<u>Debtor</u>") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case and the plaintiff in the above-captioned adversary proceeding (the "<u>Adversary Proceeding</u>"), by its undersigned counsel, as and for its complaint (the "<u>Complaint</u>") against defendant, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("<u>HCMS</u>" or "<u>Defendant</u>"), alleges upon knowledge of its own actions and upon information and belief as to other matters as follows:

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. The Debtor brings this action against HCMS as a result of HCMS's defaults under (i) four demand notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$900,000 and payable upon the Debtor's demand, and (ii) one term note in the aggregate principal amount of \$20,247,628.02 and payable in the event of default, all executed by HCMS in favor of the Debtor. HCMS has failed to pay amounts due and owing under the notes and the accrued but unpaid interest thereon.
- 2. Through this Complaint, the Debtor seeks (a) damages from HCMS in an amount equal to (i) the aggregate outstanding principal due under the Notes (as defined below), plus (ii) all accrued and unpaid interest thereon until the date of payment, plus (iii) an amount equal to the Debtor's costs of collection (including all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, as provided for in the notes) for HCMS's breach of its obligations under the Notes, and (b) turnover by HCMS to the Debtor of the foregoing amounts.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. This adversary proceeding arises in and relates to the Debtor's case pending before the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division (the "Court") under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334.
- 5. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b), and, pursuant to Rule 7008 of the Bankruptcy Rules, the Debtor consents to the entry of a final order by the Court in the event that it is later determined that the Court, absent consent of the parties, cannot enter final orders or judgments consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.
 - 6. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

THE PARTIES

- 7. The Debtor is a limited liability partnership formed under the laws of Delaware with a business address at 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75201.
- 8. Upon information and belief, HCMS is a company with offices located in Dallas, Texas, and is incorporated in the state of Delaware.

CASE BACKGROUND

- 9. On October 16, 2019, the Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Delaware Court"), Case No. 19-12239 (CSS) (the "Highland Bankruptcy Case").
- 10. On October 29, 2019, the U.S. Trustee in the Delaware Court appointed an Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee") with the following members: (a) Redeemer Committee of Highland Crusader Fund, (b) Meta-e Discovery, (c) UBS Securities LLC and UBS AG London Branch, and (d) Acis LP and Acis GP.

- 11. On December 4, 2019, the Delaware Court entered an order transferring venue of the Highland Bankruptcy Case to this Court [Docket No. 186].²
- 12. The Debtor has continued in the possession of its property and has continued to operate and manage its business as a debtor-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in this chapter 11 case.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

A. The HCMS Demand Notes

- 13. HCMS is the maker under a series of demand notes in favor of the Debtor.
- 14. Specifically, on March 28, 2018, HCMS executed a demand note in favor of the Debtor, as payee, in the original principal amount of \$150,000 ("HCMS's First Demand Note"). A true and correct copy of HCMS's First Demand Note is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.
- 15. On June 25, 2018, HCMS executed a demand note in favor of the Debtor, as payee, in the original principal amount of \$200,000 ("HCMS's Second Demand Note"). A true and correct copy of HCMS's Second Demand Note is attached hereto as **Exhibit 2.**
- 16. On May 29, 2019, HCMS executed a demand note in favor of the Debtor, as payee, in the original principal amount of \$400,000 ("HCMS's Third Demand Note"). A true and correct copy of HCMS's Third Demand Note is attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**
- 17. On June 26, 2019, HCMS executed a demand note in favor of the Debtor, as payee, in the original principal amount of \$150,000 ("HCMS's Fourth Demand Note," and collectively, with HCMS's First Demand Note, HCMS's Second Demand Note, and HCMS's Third Demand Note, the "Demand Notes"). A true and correct copy of HCMS's Fourth Demand Note is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4.**

² All docket numbers refer to the main docket for the Highland Bankruptcy Case maintained by this Court.

- 18. Section 2 of the Demand Notes provide: "Payment of Principal and Interest.

 The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand of the Payee."
 - 19. Section 4 of the Demand Notes provides:

Acceleration Upon Default. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of the Payee in exercising any right, power, or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver hereof.

20. Section 6 of the Demand Notes provides:

Attorneys' Fees. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.

B. <u>HCMS's Defaults under Each Demand Note</u>

21. By letter dated December 3, 2020, the Debtor made demand on HCMS for payment under the Demand Notes by December 11, 2020 (the "<u>Demand Letter</u>"). A true and correct copy of the Demand Letter is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 5</u>. The Demand Letter provided:

By this letter, Payee is demanding payment of the accrued interest and principal due and payable on the Notes in the aggregate amount of \$947,519.43, which represents all accrued interest and principal through and including December 11, 2020.

Payment is due on December 11, 2020, and failure to make payment in full on such date will constitute an event of default under the Notes.

Demand Letter (emphasis in the original).

22. Despite the Debtor's demand, HCMS did not pay all or any portion of the amounts demanded by the Debtor on December 11, 2020.

- 23. As of December 11, 2020, there was an outstanding principal amount of \$158,776.59 on HCMS's First Demand Note and accrued but unpaid interest in the amount of \$3,257.32, resulting in a total outstanding amount as of that date of \$162,033.91.
- 24. As of December 11, 2020, there was an outstanding principal balance of \$212,403.37 on HCMS's Second Demand Note and accrued but unpaid interest in the amount of \$2,999.54, resulting in a total outstanding amount as of that date of \$215,402.81.
- 25. As of December 11, 2020, there was an outstanding principal balance of \$409,586.19 on HCMS's Third Demand Note and accrued but unpaid interest in the amount of \$5,256.62, resulting in a total outstanding amount as of that date of \$414,842.81.
- 26. As of December 11, 2020, there was an outstanding principal balance of \$153,564.74 on HCMS's Fourth Demand Note and accrued but unpaid interest in the amount of \$1,675.16, resulting in a total outstanding amount as of that date of \$155,239.90.
- 27. Thus, as of December 11, 2020, the total outstanding principal and accrued but unpaid interest due under the Demand Notes was \$947,519.43. Pursuant to Section 4 of each Demand Note, each Note is in default and is currently due and payable.

C. The HCMS Term Note

- 28. HCMS is the maker under a term note in favor of the Debtor.
- 29. Specifically, on May 31, 2017, HCMS executed a term note in favor of the Debtor, as payee, in the original principal amount of \$20,247,628.02 (the "<u>Term Note</u>," and together with the Demand Notes, the "<u>Notes</u>"). A true and correct copy of the Term Note is attached hereto as **Exhibit 6**.
- 30. Section 2 of the Term Note provides: "Payment of Principal and Interest.

 Principal and interest under this Note shall be due and payable as follows:

- **2.1** Annual Payment Dates. During the term of this Note, Borrower shall pay the outstanding principal amount of the Note (and all unpaid accrued interest through the date of each such payment) in thirty (30) equal annual payments (the "Annual Installment") until the Note is paid in full. Borrower shall pay the Annual Installment on the 31st day of December of each calendar year during the term of this Note, commencing on the first such date to occur after the date of execution of this note.
- **2.2 Final Payment Date.** The final payment in the aggregate amount of the then outstanding and unpaid Note, together with all accrued and unpaid interest thereon, shall become immediately due and payable in full on December 31, 2047 (the "**Maturity Date**").
- 31. Section 3 of the Term Note provides:

<u>Prepayment Allowed: Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.

32. Section 4 of the Term Note provides:

Acceleration Upon Default. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of the Payee in exercising any right, power, or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver hereof.

33. Section 6 of the Term Note provides:

Attorneys' Fees. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.

D. HCMS's Default under the Term Note

34. HCMS failed to make the payment due under the Term Note on December 31,

2020.

35. By letter dated January 7, 2021, the Debtor made demand on HCMS for immediate payment under the Term Note (the "Second Demand Letter"). A true and correct copy of the Second Demand Letter is attached hereto as **Exhibit 7**. The Second Demand Letter provides:

Because of Maker's failure to pay, the Note is in default. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Note, all principal, interest, and any other amounts due on the Note are immediately due and payable. The amount due and payable on the Note as of January 8, 2021 is \$6,757,248.95; however, interest continues to accrue under the Note.

The Note is in default, and payment is due <u>immediately</u>.

Second Demand Letter (emphasis in the original).

- 36. As of January 8, 2021, the total outstanding principal and accrued but unpaid interest under the Term Note was \$6,757,248.95.
- 37. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Term Note, the Term Note is in default and is currently due and payable.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (For Breach of Contract)

- 38. The Debtor repeats and re-alleges the allegations in each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
 - 39. The Notes are binding and enforceable contracts.
- 40. HCMS breached each Demand Note by failing to pay all amounts due to the Debtor upon the Debtor's demand.
- 41. HCMS breached the Term Note by failing to pay all amounts due to the Debtor upon HCMS's default and acceleration.
- 42. Pursuant to each Note, the Debtor is entitled to damages from HCMS in an amount equal to (i) the aggregate outstanding principal due under each Note, plus (ii) all accrued

and unpaid interest thereon until the date of payment, plus (iii) an amount equal to the Debtor's costs of collection (including all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses) for HCMS's breach of its obligations under each of the Notes.

- 43. As a direct and proximate cause of HCMS's breach of each Demand Note, the Debtor has suffered damages in the amount of at least \$947,519.43 as of December 11, 2020, plus an amount equal to all accrued but unpaid interest from that date, plus the Debtor's cost of collection.
- 44. As a direct and proximate cause of HCMS's breach of the Term Note, the Debtor has suffered damages in the amount of at least \$6,757,248.95 as of January 8, 2021, plus an amount equal to all accrued but unpaid interest from that date, plus the Debtor's cost of collection.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Turnover by HCMS Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 542(b))

- 45. The Debtor repeats and re-alleges the allegations in each of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 46. HCMS owes the Debtor an amount equal to (i) the aggregate outstanding principal due under each of the Notes, plus (ii) all accrued and unpaid interest thereon until the date of payment, plus (iii) an amount equal to the Debtor's costs of collection (including all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses) for HCMS's breach of its obligations under each of the Notes.
- 47. Each Demand Note is property of the Debtor's estate and the amounts due under each Demand Note are matured and payable upon demand.
- 48. The Term Note is property of the Debtor's estate and the amounts due under the Term Note are matured and payable upon default and acceleration.

- 49. The Debtor has made demand for turnover of the amounts due under each of the Notes.
- 50. As of the date of filing this Complaint, HCMS has not turned over to the Debtor all or any of the amounts due under each of the Notes.
 - 51. The Debtor is entitled to the turnover of all amounts due under each of the Notes. WHEREFORE, the Debtor prays for judgment as follows:
 - (i) On its First Claim for Relief, damages in an amount to be determined at trial, including, among other things, (a) the aggregate outstanding principal due under each Note, plus (b) all accrued and unpaid interest thereon until the date of payment, plus (c) an amount equal to the Debtor's cost of collection (including all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses);
 - (ii) On its Second Claim for Relief, ordering turnover by HCMS to the Debtor of an amount equal to (a) the aggregate principal due under each Note, plus (b) all accrued and unpaid interest thereon until the date of payment, plus (c) an amount equal to the Debtor's cost of collection (including all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses); and
 - (iii) Such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: January 22, 2021.

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

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-and-

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Counsel for Highland Capital Management, L.P.

PROMISSORY NOTE

\$150,000.00 March 28, 2018

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP. ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND and 00/100 Dollars (\$150,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the long-term "applicable federal rate" (2.88 %) in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand of the Payee.
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed: Renegotiation Discretionary.</u> Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. Acceleration Upon Default. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.
- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. Attorneys' Fees. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.

- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.

MAKER:

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

SERVICES, INC.

PROMISSORY NOTE

\$200,000.00

June 25, 2018

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP. ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 Dollars (\$200,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the long-term "applicable federal rate" (3.05 %) in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand of the Payee.
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed: Renegotiation Discretionary.</u> Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. Acceleration Upon Default. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.
- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. Attorneys' Fees. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.

- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. Governing Law. This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.

MAKER:

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

SERVICES, INC.

PROMISSORY NOTE

\$400,000 May 29, 2019

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 Dollars (\$400,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the short-term "*applicable federal rate*" (2.39%) in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand.
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. <u>Acceleration Upon Default</u>. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.
- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. <u>Attorneys' Fees</u>. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.

- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law.</u> This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.

MAKER:

FRANK WATERHOUSE

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PROMISSORY NOTE

\$150,000 June 26, 2019

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LP ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND and 00/100 Dollars (\$150,000.00), together with interest, on the terms set forth below (the "Note"). All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Dallas, TX 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at a rate equal to the short-term "*applicable federal rate*" (2.37%) in effect on the date hereof for loans of such maturity as determined by Section 1274(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, per annum from the date hereof until maturity, compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable on demand of the Payee.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. The accrued interest and principal of this Note shall be due and payable on demand.
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. <u>Acceleration Upon Default</u>. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.
- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. <u>Attorneys' Fees.</u> If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.

- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law.</u> This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.

MAKER:

FRANK WATERHOUSE

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.

December 3, 2020

Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. c/o Highland Capital Management, L.P. 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700 Dallas, Texas 75201

Attention: Frank Waterhouse, CFO

Re: Demand on Promissory Notes:

Dear Mr. Waterhouse,

Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. ("<u>Maker</u>") entered into the following promissory notes (collectively, the "<u>Notes</u>") in favor of Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("<u>Payee</u>"):

Date Issued	Original Principal Amount	Outstanding Principal Amount (12/11/20)	Accrued But Unpaid Interest (12/11/20)	Total Amount Outstanding (12/11/20)
3/28/18	\$150,000	\$158,776.59	\$3,257.32	\$162,033.91
6/25/18	\$200,000	\$212,403.27	\$2,999.54	\$215,402.81
5/29/19	\$400,000	\$409,586.19	\$5,256.62	\$414,842.81
6/26/19	\$150,000	\$153,564.74	\$1,675.16	\$155,239.90
TOTALS	\$900,000	\$934,330.79	\$13,188.64	\$947,519.43

As set forth in Section 2 of each of the Notes, accrued interest and principal is due and payable upon the demand of Payee. By this letter, Payee is demanding payment of the accrued interest and principal due and payable on the Notes in the aggregate amount of \$947,519.43, which represents all accrued and unpaid interest and principal through and including December 11, 2020.

Payment is due on December 11, 2020, and failure to make payment in full on such date will constitute an event of default under the Notes.

Payments on the Notes must be made in immediately available funds. Payee's wire information is attached hereto as **Appendix A**.

Nothing contained herein constitutes a waiver of any rights or remedies of Payee under the Notes or otherwise and all such rights and remedies, whether at law, equity, contract, or otherwise, are expressly reserved. Interest, including default interest if applicable, on the Notes will continue to accrue until the Notes are paid in full. Any such interest will remain the obligation of Maker.

Sincerely,

/s/ James P. Seery, Jr.

James P. Seery, Jr. Highland Capital Management, L.P. Chief Executive Officer/Chief Restructuring Officer cc: Fred Caruso
James Romey
Jeffrey Pomerantz
Ira Kharasch
Gregory Demo

Appendix A

ABA #: 322070381 Bank Name: East West Bank

Account Name: Highland Capital Management, LP

Account #: 5500014686

PROMISSORY NOTE

\$20,247,628.02 May 31, 2017

THIS PROMISSORY NOTE (this "<u>Note</u>") is in substitution for and supersedes in their entirety each of those certain promissory notes described in <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto, from Highland Capital Management Services, Inc., as Maker, and Highland Capital Management, L.P. as Payee (collectively, the "<u>Prior Notes</u>"), together with the aggregate outstanding principal and accrued and unpaid interested represented thereby.

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. ("Maker") promises to pay to the order of HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P. ("Payee"), in legal and lawful tender of the United States of America, the principal sum of TWENTY MILLION, TWO HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT AND 02/100 DOLLARS (\$20,247,628.02), together with interest, on the terms set forth below. All sums hereunder are payable to Payee at 300 Crescent Court, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75201, or such other address as Payee may specify to Maker in writing from time to time.

- 1. <u>Interest Rate</u>. The unpaid principal balance of this Note from time to time outstanding shall bear interest at the rate of two and seventy-five hundredths percent (2.75%) per annum from the date hereof until Maturity Date (hereinafter defined), compounded annually on the anniversary of the date of this Note. Interest shall be calculated at a daily rate equal to 1/365th (1/366 in a leap year) of the rate per annum, shall be charged and collected on the actual number of days elapsed, and shall be payable annually.
- 2. <u>Payment of Principal and Interest</u>. Principal and interest under this Note shall be payable as follows:
 - 2.1 <u>Annual Payment Dates</u>. During the term of this Note, Borrower shall pay the outstanding principal amount of the Note (and all unpaid accrued interest through the date of each such payment) in thirty (30) equal annual payments (the "<u>Annual Installment</u>") until the Note is paid in full. Borrower shall pay the Annual Installment on the 31st day of December of each calendar year during the term of this Note, commencing on the first such date to occur after the date of execution of this Note.
 - 2.2 <u>Final Payment Date</u>. The final payment in the aggregate amount of the then outstanding and unpaid Note, together with all accrued and unpaid interest thereon, shall become immediately due and payable in full on December 31, 2047 (the "<u>Maturity Date</u>").
- 3. <u>Prepayment Allowed; Renegotiation Discretionary</u>. Maker may prepay in whole or in part the unpaid principal or accrued interest of this Note. Any payments on this Note shall be applied first to unpaid accrued interest hereon, and then to unpaid principal hereof.
- 4. <u>Acceleration Upon Default</u>. Failure to pay this Note or any installment hereunder as it becomes due shall, at the election of the holder hereof, without notice, demand, presentment, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration, or any other notice of any kind which are hereby waived, mature the principal of this Note and all interest then accrued, if any, and the same shall at once become due and payable and subject to those remedies of the holder hereof. No

failure or delay on the part of Payee in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof.

- 5. <u>Waiver</u>. Maker hereby waives grace, demand, presentment for payment, notice of nonpayment, protest, notice of protest, notice of intent to accelerate, notice of acceleration and all other notices of any kind hereunder.
- 6. <u>Attorneys' Fees</u>. If this Note is not paid at maturity (whether by acceleration or otherwise) and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if it is collected through a bankruptcy court or any other court after maturity, the Maker shall pay, in addition to all other amounts owing hereunder, all actual expenses of collection, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred by the holder hereof.
- 7. <u>Limitation on Agreements</u>. All agreements between Maker and Payee, whether now existing or hereafter arising, are hereby limited so that in no event shall the amount paid, or agreed to be paid to Payee for the use, forbearance, or detention of money or for the payment or performance of any covenant or obligation contained herein or in any other document evidencing, securing or pertaining to this Note, exceed the maximum interest rate allowed by law. The terms and provisions of this paragraph shall control and supersede every other provision of all agreements between Payee and Maker in conflict herewith.
- 8. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Note and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America and by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Dallas County, Texas.
- 9. <u>Prior Notes.</u> The original of each of the Prior Notes superseded hereby shall be marked "VOID" by Payee.

MAKER:

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

SERVICES, ING.

By:___ Name:

Title:

EXHIBIT A

PRIOR NOTES

Loan Date	Initial Note Amount	Interest Rate	Principal and Interest Outstanding as of May 31, 2017
5/29/15	\$500,000	2.30%	\$523,095
10/1/15	\$350,000	2.58%	\$315,500
10/2/15	\$310,000	2.58%	\$323,301
10/27/15	\$200,000	2.58%	\$208,228
10/28/15	\$200,000	2.58%	\$208,214
10/30/15	\$100,000	2.58%	\$104,093
11/23/15	\$100,000	2.57%	\$103,908
11/24/15	\$250,000	2.57%	\$259,752
2/10/16	\$2,000,000	2.62%	\$ 83,390
2/11/16	\$250,000	2.62%	\$258,524
4/5/16	\$6,000,000	2.25%	\$6,155,712
5/4/16	\$2,700,000	2.24%	\$2,764,954
7/1/16	\$30,000	2.18%	\$30,598
8/5/16	\$525,000	2.18%	\$534,375
8/22/16	\$250,000	2.18%	\$254,465
9/22/16	\$185,000	2.18%	\$187,773
12/12/16	\$7,700,000	2.26%	\$7,781,050
3/31/17	\$150,000	2.78%	\$150,697
	\$21,800,000		\$20,247,628.02

HIGHLAND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, L.P.

January 7, 2021

Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. c/o Bonds Ellis Eppich Schafer Jones LLP 420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1000 Fort Worth, Texas 76012 Attention: James Dondero

Re: Demand on Promissory Note

Dear Mr. Dondero,

On May 31, 2017, Highland Capital Management Services, Inc. entered into that certain promissory note in the original principal amount of \$20,247,628.02 (the "Note") in favor of Highland Capital Management, L.P. ("Payee").

As set forth in Section 2 of the Note, accrued interest and principal on the Note is due and payable in thirty equal annual payments with each payment due on December 31 of each calendar year. Maker failed to make the payment due on December 31, 2020.

Because of Maker's failure to pay, the Note is in default. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Note, all principal, interest, and any other amounts due on the Note are immediately due and payable. The amount due and payable on the Note as of January 8, 2021 is \$6,757,248.95; however, interest continues to accrue under the Note.

The Note is in default, and payment is due <u>immediately</u>. Payments on the Note must be made in immediately available funds. Payee's wire information is attached hereto as **Appendix A**.

Nothing contained herein constitutes a waiver of any rights or remedies of Payee under the Note or otherwise and all such rights and remedies, whether at law, equity, contract, or otherwise, are expressly reserved. Interest, including default interest if applicable, on the Note will continue to accrue until the Note is paid in full. Any such interest will remain the obligation of Maker.

Sincerely,

/s/ James P. Seery, Jr.

James P. Seery, Jr. Highland Capital Management, L.P. Chief Executive Officer/Chief Restructuring Officer cc: Fred Caruso
James Romey
Jeffrey Pomerantz
Ira Kharasch
Gregory Demo
D. Michael Lynn

Appendix A

ABA #: 322070381 Bank Name: East West Bank

Account Name: Highland Capital Management, LP

Account #: 5500014686

B1040 (FORM 1040) (12/15)

ADVERSARY PROCEEDING COVER SHEET		ADVERSARY PROCEEDING NUMBER (Court Use Only)		
(Instructions on Reverse)				
PLAINTIFFS	DEFEND	ANTS		
Highland Capital Management, L.P.	Highla	nd Capital Management Services, Inc.		
ATTORNEYS (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone No.)	ATTORN	NEYS (If Known)		
Hayward PLLC				
10501 N. Central Expressway, Suite 106				
Dallas, Texas 75231 Tel.: (972) 755-7100 PARTY (Check One Box Only)	DADTV (Charle One Day Only)		
Debtor U.S. Trustee/Bankruptcy Admin	Debtor □	Check One Box Only) □ U.S. Trustee/Bankruptcy Admin		
□ Creditor □ Other	□ Creditor			
□ Trustee	□ Trustee	• one		
CAUSE OF ACTION (WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE	OF ACTION	I, INCLUDING ALL U.S. STATUTES INVOLVED)		
Count 1: Breach of contract; Count 2: Turnover pursuant to 11 U	.S.C. 542			
NATURE ()F SUIT			
(Number up to five (5) boxes starting with lead cause of action as 1, first alternative cause as 2, second alternative cause as 3, etc.)				
FRBP 7001(1) – Recovery of Money/Property		6) – Dischargeability (continued)		
2 11-Recovery of money/property - §542 turnover of property		argeability - §523(a)(5), domestic support		
12-Recovery of money/property - §547 preference	68-Dischargeability - §523(a)(6), willful and malicious injury			
13-Recovery of money/property - \$548 fraudulent transfer	☐ 63-Dischargeability - §523(a)(8), student loan ☐ 64-Dischargeability - §523(a)(15), divorce or separation obligation			
14-Recovery of money/property - other		than domestic support)		
FRBP 7001(2) - Validity, Priority or Extent of Lien	65-Dischargeability - other			
21-Validity, priority or extent of lien or other interest in property				
FRBP 7001(3) – Approval of Sale of Property	FRBP 7001(7) – Injunctive Relief 71-Injunctive relief – imposition of stay			
31-Approval of sale of property of estate and of a co-owner - §363(h)	71-injunctive relief – imposition of stay 72-Injunctive relief – other			
FRBP 7001(4) – Objection/Revocation of Discharge	,			
41-Objection / revocation of discharge - \$727(c),(d),(e)		8) Subordination of Claim or Interest rdination of claim or interest		
	□ 61-3u00	rumation of Claim of interest		
FRBP 7001(5) – Revocation of Confirmation 51-Revocation of confirmation		9) Declaratory Judgment		
21-Acvocation of committation	☐ 91-Decla	aratory judgment		
FRBP 7001(6) – Dischargeability	FRBP 7001(1	10) Determination of Removed Action		
66-Dischargeability - \$523(a)(1),(14),(14A) priority tax claims	01-Deter	rmination of removed claim or cause		
62-Dischargeability - §523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation, actual fraud	04			
67-Dischargeability - §523(a)(4), fraud as fiduciary, embezzlement, larceny	Other SS-SIPA	∆ Case – 15 U.S.C. §§78aaa <i>et.seq.</i>		
(continued next column)	35-31-A Case = 15 0.5.C. §§76aaa et.seq. 02-Other (e.g. other actions that would have been brought in state court			
(continued next column)	if un	related to bankruptcy case)		
Check if this case involves a substantive issue of state law		this is asserted to be a class action under FRCP 23		
☐ Check if a jury trial is demanded in complaint	Demand \$	7,704,768.38 plus interest, fees, and expenses		
Other Relief Sought				

B1040 (FORM 1040) (12/15)

BANKRUPTCY CASE IN WHICH THIS ADVERSARY PROCEEDING ARISES				
NAME OF DEBTOR Highland Capital Management, L.P.		BANKRUPTCY CASE NO. 19-34054-sgj11		
DISTRICT IN WHICH CASE IS PENDING Northern District of Texas		DIVISION OFFICE Dallas	NAME OF JUDGE Stacey G. C. Jernigan	
RELATED ADVERSARY PROCEEDING (IF ANY)				
PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT		ADVERSARY PROCEEDING NO.	
DISTRICT IN WHICH ADVERSARY IS PENDIN	IG	DIVISION OFFICE	NAME OF JUDGE	
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PLAINTIFF)				
DATE		PRINT NAME OF ATTORNE	Y (OR PLAINTIFF)	
January 22, 2021		Zachery Z. Annable		

INSTRUCTIONS

The filing of a bankruptcy case creates an "estate" under the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court which consists of all of the property of the debtor, wherever that property is located. Because the bankruptcy estate is so extensive and the jurisdiction of the court so broad, there may be lawsuits over the property or property rights of the estate. There also may be lawsuits concerning the debtor's discharge. If such a lawsuit is filed in a bankruptcy court, it is called an adversary proceeding.

A party filing an adversary proceeding must also must complete and file Form 1040, the Adversary Proceeding Cover Sheet, unless the party files the adversary proceeding electronically through the court's Case Management/Electronic Case Filing system (CM/ECF). (CM/ECF captures the information on Form 1040 as part of the filing process.) When completed, the cover sheet summarizes basic information on the adversary proceeding. The clerk of court needs the information to process the adversary proceeding and prepare required statistical reports on court activity.

The cover sheet and the information contained on it do not replace or supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, the Bankruptcy Rules, or the local rules of court. The cover sheet, which is largely self-explanatory, must be completed by the plaintiff's attorney (or by the plaintiff if the plaintiff is not represented by an attorney). A separate cover sheet must be submitted to the clerk for each complaint filed.

Plaintiffs and Defendants. Give the names of the plaintiffs and defendants exactly as they appear on the complaint.

Attorneys. Give the names and addresses of the attorneys, if known.

Party. Check the most appropriate box in the first column for the plaintiffs and the second column for the defendants.

Demand. Enter the dollar amount being demanded in the complaint.

Signature. This cover sheet must be signed by the attorney of record in the box on the second page of the form. If the plaintiff is represented by a law firm, a member of the firm must sign. If the plaintiff is pro se, that is, not represented by an attorney, the plaintiff must sign.